IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A hydrojet for watercraft ~~with the features: a)~~, the hydrojet ~~(1) comprises~~ comprising:

a) a housing unit ~~(3)~~, which can be installed in the bottom of the watercraft and contains at least one ~~said~~ propeller ~~(10)~~ that can be rotated about a propeller axis ~~(9)~~ and delivers the water entering through a bottom-side intake opening ~~(13)~~ and through said housing section of the housing unit ~~(3)~~ through a bend ~~(6)~~ and through a bottom deflecting grid ~~(16)~~ arranged rotatably, by means of a steering shaft, in a discharge opening ~~(15)~~ of the housing unit ~~(3)~~, which said discharge opening is flush with the bottom, and thus releases it under the housing unit ~~(3)~~;

b) the propeller ~~(10)~~ forms an axial flow pump ~~(8)~~, which is in functional connection with a drive ~~(2, 2', 40) arranged outside the housing unit (3)~~, at least with a propeller shaft arranged on a delivery side of the bend and a pump housing section ~~(5)~~ of the housing unit ~~(3)~~; [[and]]

c) the axis of rotation ~~(9)~~ of the propeller sloping towards the primary flow direction, which axis of rotation extends at an angle down to the intake opening of the housing unit, has a slope angle (α) between 20° and 50° in relation to [[the]] a bottom plate ~~(20)~~ as a horizontal base; and

d) the hydrojet being designed such that the intake housing section is aligned with the main direction of travel in case of the normal use of the hydrojet, and the bottom-side intake opening of the housing unit is arranged in front of the discharge opening.

2. (Currently Amended) A hydrojet in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the axis of rotation ~~(9)~~ of the propeller has a slope angle (α) between 25° and 40° in relation to the bottom plate ~~(20)~~ as a horizontal base.

3. (Currently Amended) A hydrojet in accordance with claim 1 ~~or 2, characterized in that~~, wherein the housing unit ~~(3)~~ of the hydrojet ~~(1)~~ comprises at least four ~~said~~ housing sections ~~(4-7)~~ connected with one another and including: an intake housing section ~~(4)~~, through which the water enters the pump ~~(8)~~, a tubular pump housing section ~~(5)~~ comprising the propeller ~~(10)~~, a bent housing section ~~(6)~~ for deflecting the flow of water, and a discharge housing section ~~(7)~~ provided with a pivotable bottom deflecting grid ~~(16)~~.

4. (Currently Amended) A hydrojet in accordance with claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein above the intake opening ~~(13)~~, the contour of the intake housing section ~~(4)~~ forms a trapezoidal tunnel cross section ~~(21)~~, which forms a, circularly arched tunnel cross section ~~(22)~~ in the course of the further rise and then passes over, via a conical pump intake nozzle ~~(23)~~, into a circular cross section, which opens concentrically into the pump housing section ~~(5)~~ of the housing unit ~~(3)~~.

5. (Currently Amended) A hydrojet in accordance with claim 3 ~~or 4~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the bent housing section ~~(6)~~ is a 90° pipe bend.

6. (Currently Amended) A hydrojet in accordance with ~~one of the claims 1 through 5~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the drive ~~(2, 2')~~ of the pump ~~(8)~~ is an electric motor, which is fastened to the housing unit ~~(3)~~ either on the front side or axially in parallel to [[the]] a propeller shaft ~~(11)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) A hydrojet in accordance with ~~one of the claims 1 through 5~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the drive (40) of the pump ~~(8)~~ is an internal combustion engine, which is fastened to the housing unit ~~(3)~~, wherein the drive ~~(40)~~ and [[the]] a propeller shaft ~~(11)~~ are connected at least via a gear ~~(42)~~, which has [[its]] a power input and power output on the same side.

8. (Currently Amended) A hydrojet in accordance with ~~one of the claims 1 through 7~~ claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a protective grid ~~(24)~~ is arranged in the intake housing section ~~(4)~~ of the housing unit ~~(3)~~.

9. (Currently Amended) A hydrojet in accordance with ~~one of the claims 1 through 8~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the pump ~~(8)~~ in the housing unit ~~(3)~~ is a two-stage axial-flow pump, which has two said propellers ~~(10)~~ on the propeller shaft (11) and at least one ~~said~~ guide vane ~~(26)~~ located in between to rectify the flow.

10. (Currently Amended) A hydrojet in accordance with ~~one of the claims 1 through 8~~

claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the propeller ~~(10)~~ of the pump ~~(8)~~ is a variable-pitch propeller.

11. (New) A hydrojet for a watercraft, the hydrojet comprising:

a housing unit adapted for installation in a bottom of the watercraft, said housing unit having a bottom plate as a base, a bottom-side intake opening arranged in a normal direction of travel, a bend and a discharge opening, said discharge opening being substantially flush with the bottom of the watercraft with said intake opening arranged in front of said discharge opening with respect to the normal direction of travel;

a steering shaft with connected bottom deflecting grid arranged pivotably in said discharge opening;

a drive arranged outside said housing unit, the drive driving a propeller shaft arranged on a delivery side in the bend;

a propeller mounted in said housing unit for rotation about a propeller axis of rotation for delivering water entering through said bottom-side intake opening of the housing unit through said bend and through said bottom deflecting grid to releases the water under the housing unit, said propeller defining a pump with a pump housing section of said housing unit, said propeller being in functional connection with said drive, said propeller axis of rotation having a slope angle (α) between 20° and 50° in relation to said bottom plate.

12. (New) A hydrojet in accordance with claim 11, wherein said slope angle (α) is

between 25° and 40° in relation to said bottom plate.

13. (New) A hydrojet in accordance with claim 12, wherein said housing unit comprises an intake housing section, through which the water enters the pump, a tubular pump housing section housing the propeller, a bent housing section for deflecting the flow of water, and a discharge housing section provided with said deflecting grid.

14. (New) A hydrojet in accordance with claim 13, wherein above the intake opening, a contour of said intake housing section forms a trapezoidal tunnel cross section, which forms a, circularly arched tunnel cross section in a course of a further rise and downstream passes over, via a conical pump intake nozzle, into a circular cross section, said circular cross section opening concentrically into the pump housing section of the housing unit.

15. (New) A hydrojet in accordance with claim 14, wherein the bent housing section is a 90° pipe bend.

16. (New) A hydrojet in accordance with claim 11, wherein said drive comprises an electric motor fastened to said housing unit either on the front side or axially in parallel to said propeller shaft.

17. (New) A hydrojet in accordance with claim 11, further comprising a gear having a

power input and power output on a same side; and a propeller shaft connected to said drive and to said propeller, wherein said drive comprises an internal combustion engine fastened to said housing unit, wherein said drive and said propeller shaft are connected at least via said gear.

18. (New) A hydrojet in accordance with claim 11, further comprising a protective grid arranged in an intake housing section of said housing unit.

19. (New) A hydrojet in accordance with claim 11, wherein said pump in said housing unit is a two-stage axial-flow pump including said propeller and another propeller each on a propeller shaft and at least one guide vane located in between to rectify flow.

20. (New) A hydrojet in accordance with claim 1, wherein said propeller is a variable-pitch propeller.